

## THE STORY OF MATAIO, . . . A GILBERT ISLANDER

Those who are studying missionary work of the American Board know that the Gilbert Islands form a group in the eastern part of Micronesia, just under the equator. There are not far from twenty of these islands, and they belong to Great Britain. With one or two exceptions, those that are north of the equator are under the care of the London Missionary Society. The same language is used throughout the group, and into the Gilbertese the whole Bible has been translated by the Rev. Hiram Bingham, our missionary who so long labored there, and who, early in his missionary life, was captain of the Morning Star. All these islands were in darkest heathendom fifty years ago, naked and quarrelsome, and without any knowledge of God. There have been some wonderful transformations among them, and at times they have shown very great interest in Christian things. Of late there has been a reaction toward heathenism on some of the

islands; and Mr. Walkup, whose little vessel (propelled by a gasoline engine) bears the name of Hiram Bingham, has found much to cause him anxiety. But there are some converts in these islands whose history shows clearly the power of the gospel in making new men out of very unromantic material. We have recently found in a report of the London Missionary Society an account of a Gilbert Islander named Mataio, the story of whose conversion is so remarkable that we propose to give the substance of it here. It was originally told by Mr. Sibree, of Samoa, in a publication of the London Missionary Society.

It should be remembered that some years ago there was a great effort to get laborers to work on Hawaii, in South America, and elsewhere, and that it was quite common to send down vessels among the islands of the Pacific to entice the simple-minded islanders, under the promise of great wages for two or three years of service, and a subsequent return to their own island, to go on board and be shipped to these different points. At these "labor ships," as they were called, were commanded by men of no principle, and they would often seize the islanders when they could get them on board their vessels, and carry them off without any contract, never to return.

Now this Mataio, of Beru, one of the southern Gilbert Islands, was connected with these slave ships. When he was first heard about his name was Sanele, and he had a very bad name among the people of Beru as a thief and very quarrelsome. So bad was he that his people were afraid of him, and were very glad when one day he went aboard one of these labor ships and agreed to leave his home. The rest of the story we will take from Mr. Sibree's account.

"The ship went to one of the South American Republics with its cargo. Sanele became very useful to these kidnappers and they kept him in their service, and he got a smattering of English, began to pick up foreign ways, learned the use of a gun, and generally became worse than he had ever been in his earlier days. The next we hear of him is that he is back again on his ship among the Gilbert Islands, and they are on the same business—stealing men. But they have to be more careful this time, for the natives once bitten are twice shy. So they paint their ship, which was black before, a fine white color. And once again the unsuspecting natives, thinking it is another trading vessel, go off in crowds in their canoes. They are tempted on board by tobacco, food, and cloth, and before they are aware of it, the ship is sailing away, and they are caught and taken to slavery.

"This trick was tried on two or three voyages, the ship being painted a different color each time. And of course Sanele was used as a decoy to talk and tempt them on board. But at last he and the ship became well known and dreaded in all the islands. The next time Sanele appeared in Beru, the captain had fitted up one of the ship's boats with a small gun in the bows, and Sanele was sent on shore with some men in her to capture as many people as they could by force. As they neared the beach the people collected in crowds to meet the boat, but were quickly scattered by shots from the cannon, and then Sanele and his men jumped ashore, musket in hand, and soon caught and forced many into the boat, not without killing and wounding some.

"Such were the incidents that made up his life for many a day. The next thing that we hear of him is that the captain of this ship of evil had again tried on his old trick of enticing the poor people on board, knowing well that, though they had their fears, their desire for food and tobacco (which helps them keep off the cravings of hunger in these islands where there is so little to eat) would be too great to keep them long away. Without dropping anchor, he got a large number on board, and soon made them happy with pipes of tobacco and tins of food and biscuits. But after a bit they got suspicious, and looking over the side they saw that they were sailing away from land. Their cries and entreaties were in vain, and so at last they resigned themselves to their fate. There were one or two who were cleverer than their

fellows, and they arranged a plot to kill all the foreigners. They sent for Sanele, and said he was to ask the chief of the ship if they could give a siva, or native dance, before them all. Sanele unsuspectingly did as he was asked, and the captain agreed. So all the ship's company gathered on the main deck—save the man at the helm.

"Gradually the dancers so arranged themselves that they formed a circle round the foreigners. Then at a given signal they set upon them, three natives to one white. The latter were so completely taken by surprise that they were either killed or badly wounded, all save the man at the wheel. Even Sanele was wounded, but he was able to beg for his life by pointing out that he alone could help them with the ship. But in the meantime the wheelman had run down below and secured a gun, and was able to keep up such a deadly fire that many were killed, and no one dared to go near him. They huddled all together above the main hold, and then the white man saw his opportunity. For he went down below, and getting a barrel of gunpowder, set it underneath them, and on setting fire to it the deck was blown off, and all were blown into the sea. Only the white man and Sanele were left, and together they worked the ship to a South American port. Sanele afterwards reached one of the Ellice Islands. There he first learned to know God and fear him, and gradually the light began to pierce his dark heart, and the desire for a new life came to him. So he was the first of the Southern Gilbertese to hear the gospel from the agents of the London Missionary Society."

Sanele did not go at once to Beru. The people at that and other islands had become very shy of vessels that came near them, naturally fearing that they were slave ships ready to capture and carry them away. But when the John Williams appeared they found it was a missionary vessel, and their fears vanished until they saw their old enemy, Sanele, on board. They had not known what had become of him, and when he appeared they supposed he was on his former cruel errand. They feared him just as the early Christians feared Saul of Tarsus, the persecutor, when he first sought to join the disciples. Mr. Sibree says:—

"I leave you to imagine the feelings which the islanders had when they saw their fellow-countryman. Their fear was not soon changed to confidence in him who had done so much evil to them and theirs—for many had he killed, and many others had he helped to carry off into slavery. I am told that it was a long time before they could believe that he was a changed man. But when at last they did believe it, you can understand what a powerful living argument he was for the missionary pastor.

"Sanele, or Mataio, as he is called since he was converted, was as anxious now to do right as he had been to do wrong before. And instead of catching men to make slaves of them, he set about to help catch men to free them from sin and Satan. He couldn't be a pastor, so he is the very next best thing to it, for I hear he is a deacon, and up to the present day is trying to serve Christ and the church as best he can, according to his light. If there was an office as king in the islands, and Mataio had liked to make himself such, no one would have denied him, for he is now so respected for his good and upright life."—Missionary Herald.

### LOOKED AT THE MOON.

In Grover Cleveland's second administration there occurred a slight eclipse of the moon, which the President and Mrs. Cleveland were watching with keen interest, when the latter remarked: "Mr. Olney would be immensely interested in this; but he may not know of it."

Instantly Cleveland turned to an usher and told him to telephone to the Attorney General to look at the moon. Promptly the message was sent; but it was received by a French butler. "To look at vat?" he called back. "The moon," was repeated. "Ze vat?" came the question again. "The m-o-o-n. The moon." "Is ze President in hees mind?" was the next query. "Yes, and he tells Mr. Olney to go look at the moon. Repeat the message."

"Vat for iss dat?" was the final objection but he went and gave the message.

Nearly an hour later the same butler called up the White House, and in a tone that suggested that he was more confused than ever, said: "Meestaire Olney, desirre to say to Meestaire President zat he has looked at ze moon, and he iss mooch obliged."

### WAS SHAKESPEARE

#### A PHYSICIAN?

Lawyers have claimed Shakespeare as a lawyer, farmers have claimed him as a farmer, chemists as a chemist, doctors as a doctor—scientists and tailors, astronomers and shoemakers, mathematicians and mariners, have each stoutly maintained that Shakespeare must have been a practitioner of his own particular trade or profession in order to gain that wonderfully intimate knowledge of it that he uniformly displays.

Just recently, a New York physician has been writing of Shakespeare's acquaintance with medical lore. In an article in the Medical Record, this physician, Dr. Wainwright, points out that Shakespeare's works contain references to anatomical facts and to the effects of medicines which it is believed were utterly unknown to the physicians of that time. Dr. Wainwright adds:

That Shakespeare was aware of the theory of the action of antitoxin is evident from the following quotation:

Benvolio—  
"Take thou some new infection to the eye,  
And the rank poison of the old will die."

—"Romeo and Juliet," Act I, Scene II.

Again, it is quite certain that Shakespeare anticipated Harvey in a knowledge of the circulation of the blood. Note the following significant quotations:

Brutus—  
"You are my true and honorable wife;  
As dear to me as are the ruddy drops  
That visit my sad heart."

—"Julius Caesar," Act II, Scene I.

Ghost—  
"Holds such an enmity with blood of man,  
That, swift as quicksilver, it courses  
Through the natural gates and alleys of the body;

And, with a sudden vigor, it doth posset  
And curd, like eagg dropping into milk,  
The thin and wholesome blood."

—"Hamlet," Act I, Scene V.

## J Hopp & Co., KING and BETHEL Streets.

### FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY.

Chairs (150 kinds).  
Iron beds.  
Morris chairs.  
Lanai furniture.  
Chiffoniers.  
Dining chairs.  
Oriental rugs.  
New line library tables.  
Buffets.  
Ostermoor mattresses.  
Sideboards.  
China closets.  
Dining room tables.  
Curled hair.

Ladies' desks.  
Dressing tables.  
Baby cribs.  
Rocking chairs.  
Linoleum.  
Book cases.  
Mirrors.  
Bedroom sets.  
Mission chairs.  
Settees.  
Wardrobes.  
Window shades.  
Feathers.  
Go-carts.

And everything else in the trade.

We carry the largest and most complete assortment of furniture of every description ever shown in the islands. Judges of fine furniture know that we import the best that is sold here.

FURNITURE POLISH FOR HOME USE.

## J. Hopp & Co., KING and BETHEL Streets.

And, with a sudden vigor, it doth posset  
And curd, like eagg dropping into milk,  
The thin and wholesome blood."

—"Hamlet," Act I, Scene V.

The play of "Hamlet" was first printed in 1603, while Harvey made known his discovery of the circulation of the blood in 1628, although he states in his "Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis" that he had for nine years been demonstrating the subject in his lectures at the College of Physicians in London. Even this would, if allowed, carry him back only as far as 1619, or sixteen years after the first appearance in print of "Ham-

let." "Julius Caesar" was first printed in 1623.

Again, note in "Coriolanus," Act I, Scene I:

Menenius—  
"...But, if you do remember,  
I send it through the rivers of your blood,  
Even to the court, the heart, to the seat of the brain,  
And, through the cranks and offices of man:  
The strongest nerves, and small inferior veins,  
From me receive that natural competency  
Whereby they live."

"Hist!" whispered the politician's wife in the dead of night, "there are robbers in the house!" "Yes," replied the politician, sleepily, "and in the Senate, too. But why should that worry you?"—Philadelphia Press.

"I see you advertise piano covers," said the man with a squint. "Yes, we have all kinds," said the clerk. "Let me look at some that are hermetically sealed, then."—Yonkers Statesman.

NO DREAD OF MOSQUITOES IF YOU HAVE A

## SKEET-GO

A unique way of using mosquito powder smokelessly. It does a double duty—makes the powder last longer and makes it ten times more effective.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

NO DREAD OF MOSQUITOES IF YOU HAVE A

## SKEET-GO

A unique way of using mosquito powder smokelessly. It does a double duty—makes the powder last longer and makes it ten times more effective.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.

We know the Skeet-Go will give you satisfaction. We ask you to get one today and enjoy evenings. We do not ask you to take any risk. If not satisfied—entirely satisfied—bring it back and get your dollar. They are sold on merit. You'll get more comfort from your dollar's investment than anything you ever purchased. Act on our advice and see if we are not right.



**BEER**  
MADE  
MILWAUKEE FAMOUS



**W. C. Peacock & Co.,**  
LIMITED  
AGENTS.

THE ONLY  
GERM-PROOF  
REFRIGERATOR

Made in the

**"Gurney"**

It is the only make that can boast of the REMOVABLE ICE COMPARTMENT.

Have you ever thought that this claim is the secret and success of constructing a cleanable, pure and germ-proof refrigerator? For years it was conceded that the non-removable ice compartment was an ideal culture farm for germs. Now no fear need be entertained for this great menace to health.

None, other than the GURNEY, has the REMOVABLE ICE COMPARTMENT.

**W. W. Dimond & Co., Ltd.**  
DISTRIBUTORS.  
51-53 King Street.

### THE DOUGLAS



BATH, THE PLUMBER

King Street, opposite  
PHONE 41

**Gillman House**  
Boquet Cigars  
BAVER LUNCH ROOM  
7, J. HOLTE



HAVING TAKEN ALL THE NECESSARY LEGAL STEPS, MR. TAGG IS GREATLY MORTIFIED AT HIS DAUGHTER'S REFUSAL TO MARRY A NOBLEMAN.